

# 'Fish Bait' Miller Made Queen Of England reel At Home

By Bonita Sparrow  
for Baptist Press

She was Princess Elizabeth then, heiress to the throne of England and its Commonwealth, but William Moseley (Fish Bait) Miller called her "Ma'am" in his Mississippi drawl

and made her feel right at home in the nation's capitol.

Miller, doorkeeper for the nation's House of Representatives since 1947, handed Prince Philip such a compliment that His Royal Highness demanded a repeat of "that charming

speech" before he'd consent to wave to the visitors in the House Gallery.

"I hadn't made that speech up, or memorized it," Miller, a Southern Baptist, said recently in Nashville. "I told him we in America thought he was the handsomest brute we'd ever

seen, and it tickled him to death. I just treated them like folks."

"Princess Elizabeth told President and Mrs. Harry Truman later that I had done more to make them feel at home in Washington than anybody except them," Miller recalled. "I know she said it because President Truman told me she did."

Miller was in Nashville to appear on an upcoming segment of "Spring Street, USA," the family television series hosted by Ken Chafin and produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission for the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Fish Bait" came by his unusual nickname as a child. "Down in Pascagoula, Miss., they used all kinds of bait to catch shrimp, lobster, fish and what have you. I was so sickly as a child that they didn't think I was good for much but bait and folks called me 'Shrimp Bait,' 'Lobster Bait,' and 'Fish Bait' and as I grew older the name stuck."

"It's stood me in good stead. The two times I ran against opponents for the House doorkeeper position I defeated men who had been in Washington lots longer than me but they had no nickname."

His musical "Mis-tuh Speak-uh, the President of the United States" has introduced Presidents to all joint gatherings of Congress for nearly 30 years.

Demonstrating his famous style on the Spring Street show, Miller said, "I took music lessons as a child and my teacher used a metronome to help me keep time. When I get ready to introduce somebody I pull my tummy in, stick my chest out and get ready to imitate that old metronome."

In addition to presidents, Miller has introduced vice presidents, justices of the Supreme Court, visiting dignitaries and more members of the Washington diplomatic corps than he can



SPRING STREET GUESTS—William M. (Fish Bait) Miller (left), doorkeeper of the nation's House of Representatives for nearly 30 years, and singer Jeannie C. Riley discussed their upcoming guest appearances on "Spring Street, USA" with the show's producer, Bob Thornton of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. The Radio-TV Commission produces the show for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. (BP) Photo by Bonita Sparrow

## The Baptist Record

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## Feb. 3 Is BWA Sunday

Sunday, February 3, is Baptist World Alliance Sunday. The BWA Executive Committee, meeting last July in Einsiedeln, Switzerland, set themes for BWA Sunday observance in both 1974 and 1975. This year's theme is "Reconciliation: God's Gift — Our Task." In 1975 world Baptists will consider "The Cross — The Cost of Reconciliation."

Baptist churches around the world, and in every state of the U. S., including Mississippi, are encouraged to observe Baptist World Alliance Sunday in such ways as are appropriate in their individual situations.

Robert S. Denny of Washington, D. C., BWA general secretary, suggests that "one of the most meaningful aspects of the Baptist World Alliance Sunday observance in any church is a period of intercessory prayer for our fellow believers in other parts of the world."

He continues, "Many are in difficult circumstances. Let us pray that in every situation in every part of the world God may use his people for the advancement of the Kingdom."

"Sermons preached on that day should call attention to the oneness of our people in Jesus Christ. Services can be made more meaningful also by inviting persons of other nationalities as special guests."

Other methods of implementation have been suggested, and those that follow are but a beginning for the imagination of a local group almost anywhere in the world.

(1) Pulpit and/or choir interchange with other Baptist churches in your area.

(2) Joint meetings with Baptist congregations of other races or other conventions.

(3) An Agape Meal in conjunction with the Lord's Supper.

(4) An offering in the local church for the BWA

(5) The congregation should literally become involved in reconciliation, more than talking about it.

The Baptist World Alliance is the worldwide fellowship of Baptist believers, seeking to bring the love of God and His saving grace to people everywhere.

Twenty-eight million baptized believers in 95 Baptist conventions and unions in 75 countries are linked together in the Baptist World Alliance "more fully to show the essential oneness of the Baptist people in the Lord Jesus Christ." Although there are over thirty-two million Baptists in the world, not all are in the Alliance.

As an international channel for fellowship, service and cooperation, the Alliance enables them to preach and teach the gospel, and bear other Christian witness, in a wider outreach situations than any member body can do alone.

These Baptist bodies, working on six continents and the islands of the sea, are especially engaged, 1973-75, in a World Mission of Reconciliation Through Jesus Christ. Each works in the manner best suited in its cultural, political and social situation for the reconciliation of man with God (evangelism) and the reconciliation of man with man, applying Biblical principles to personal conduct and social relationship.

The Alliance sponsors eight major programs of work:

A Program of Communications, helping Baptists to know each other.

A Program of Relief and Rehabilitation, helping Baptists to bear one another's burdens.

A Program of Study and Research, enabling Baptists to share and learn from each other.

A Program in behalf of Religious (Continued on page 3)

## Gifts To World Alliance Relief Show World Concern

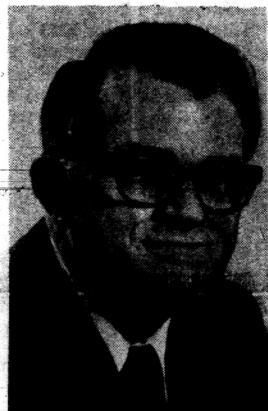
WASHINGTON (BP) — In a recent week the Baptist World Alliance received two special checks from concerned Christians. One check was for \$30,000 from the Baptist Federation of Canada and the other was for \$25 from a woman in Texas. Both checks were designated for BWA's relief program.

Gifts to the relief program certainly do range from large to small, but all show concern for suffering people on every continent, says Carl W. Tiller, BWA relief coordinator. The woman from Texas requested

(Continued On Page 2)

## Music, Singing To Be Featured At Evangelism Meeting Fagan Succeeds

### Lackey In Stewardship



Rev. Roy Collum



Dr. Earl Kelly



Dan C. Hall



Dr. John G. McCall

The annual Mississippi Baptist Evangelism Conference will be held Feb. 4-6 at First Baptist Church, Vicksburg, with congregational singing and special music to be featured at every service.

Dan C. Hall, director of the Church Music Department of the State Convention Board, will lead congregational singing and serve as coordinator for convention music.

Dr. Franklin Paschall, pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., and well-known in the state, will be the principal inspirational speaker, with five messages scheduled.

Dr. John Havlik, associate director in the Division of Evangelism of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, will be the chief resource and strategy teacher. He will be heard three times.

Evangelistic Bible study will be led at all five sessions by Dr. Jesse Northcutt, vice-president for Academic Affairs, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas.

Rev. Roy Collum, secretary of the Evangelism Department of the Convention Board, conference sponsor, will direct the conference program.

Music accompanists will be Mrs. (Continued on page 2)

NASHVILLE (BP) — A. Rudolph Fagan, a Florida pastor and immediate past chairman of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission, was elected here as the commission's new executive director - treasurer, effective March 1.

Fagan, 44, current president of the Florida Baptist Convention, succeeds James V. Lackey, who announced his resignation last October. Lackey has since formed a Nashville-based firm, James V. Lackey and Associates, financial consultants specializing in fund raising for churches and charitable institutions.

Commission Chairman Paul Cates, a layman from Lubbock, Tex., said Fagan was recommended by the commission's executive committee to the full commission "after much prayerful consideration and many meetings and after having discussed 20 to 30 persons from 16 states."

A native of Richton, Miss., Fagan has served as pastor of First Church, Bradenton, Fla., for the past two years. He previously held eight-year pastorates at both Delaney Street Church, Orlando, Fla., and First Church, Sebring, Fla. Two other pastorates were in Kirbyville, Tex., and Boca Grande, Fla., and two assistant pastorates in Arcadia, Fla., and Birmingham, Ala.

During Fagan's eight years in the Sebring pastorate, Cates said, both the church's annual budget receipts and annual contributions to the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget more than tripled.

Similar statistics during the Orlando pastorate reveal budget receipts nearly doubling in eight years. (Continued On Page 2)

## Landes Asks Renewed Ministry To Cities

DALLAS (BP) — A renewed ministry to cities "quivering with emphysema of their own creation" has been called for by James H. Landes, new executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Landes, who headed up the Texas convention's urban strategy council, challenged Baptists to a united effort in meeting the plight of both urban and rural areas. He noted especially needs in Texas and urged Texas Baptists to greater cooperation in these areas. Landes noted Jesus wept over Jerusalem.

"The Lord continues to weep over Houston, over San Antonio, Tyler, Amarillo, Lubbock, Dallas and all our cities."

He spoke of the plight of the downtown church, the mid-city church, the inner-city church, the transitional church and the rural church.

"We know the problems of the suburban velvet ghetto," he said, adding that seemingly affluent churches often are beset by near-debilitating problems.

"At a time when our cities are quivering with emphysema of their

own creation, we must pray that the Holy Spirit will fall fresh upon our people, that we may be used as His instruments for the redemption of people," Landes continued.

"Timidity in the city will not do. We must be bold in our faith," he declared.

Coupling his call for urban ministry with a challenge for unity, Landes said:

"We dare not try to meet the powerful challenge of hell's chief seat in the city when we are at odds and split asunder."

"United, cooperative, prayerful, there is little we cannot do with God's help. Divided there is nothing we can do."

Landes, himself, has been pastor of urban and suburban churches in Wichita Falls, Tex., Birmingham, Ala., and Richardson, an affluent suburb of Dallas.

He noted that prior to 1900, more than 50 percent of the people in the United States lived in rural areas.

"Today, however, 75 percent live in urban areas and by 1980, 80 percent will live in metropolitan areas. To-

day's cities generate and control much of the wealth. They create standards and styles. They are surfeited with crime, violence, misery and sin. To the people of the city, we Baptists (Continued on page 3)

## Pastoral Care Conferences To Be Held In State Feb. 18-22

Twin Baptist Pastoral Care Conferences will be held in the state Feb. 18-22, according to Dr. Foy Rogers, Jackson, director of the Cooperative Missions Department, sponsor.

Directing the conferences will be Dr. Robert Dale, consultant, Church Administration Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

A native of Missouri, Dr. Dale received the Associate

in Arts degree from Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar.

He also earned the Bachelor of Arts degree from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, before attending Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, where he earned the Doctor of Theology and Bachelor of Divinity degrees.

His seminary degrees are in the areas of Christian ethics, pastoral care, and theology.

The emphasis at each conference will be as follows: Ways to involve church leaders, how to lead a group, how to polish our communication (Continued On Page 3)

## Changes Are Eyed For Sunday School Board And 12 Agencies

By W. C. Fields  
Director, Baptist Press  
(Last of Four Articles)

NASHVILLE (BP) — An evaluation group has called for continuing improvement in service to Southern Baptist churches by the Sunday School Board and a dozen other agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The 129-page report of a four-year analysis by the "Committee of Fifteen" will be presented to the February 18-20 meeting here of the SBC Executive Committee.

E. W. Price Jr., of High Point, N. C., is chairman of the study group composed of eight ministers and seven laymen.

While stressing that the Baptist agencies have each had notable achievements over the past 15 years, the report specifies some "areas of concern" which need attention by trustees.

The Nashville-based Sunday School Board, which publishes literature and develops educational programs for the 34,500 SBC churches, is cautioned against capital over-expansion and against literature price increases which might work undue hardships on the churches.

The report raises a question about more direct involvement in the board's program budget allocations

by the Southern Baptist Convention, in keeping with requirements for all other SBC agencies.

The Sunday School Board, unlike (Continued On Page 2)

## Natchez Layman Gives Brookhaven Property To Clarke, MC



This 70-year old hotel located in the heart of downtown Brookhaven, (left photo) has been deeded to Mississippi College and Clarke College by D. A. Biglane of Natchez, for use as they see fit. In photo at right Mr. Biglane of Natchez, a well-known businessman and Baptist layman, hands over the deed to the presidents of the colleges. From left are W. D. Lofton, Brook-



haven, representing the Mississippi College trustees; Dr. W. Lowrey Compere, president of Clarke; Reuben Lott, Laurel, representing Clarke trustees; and Mr. Biglane.—(M. C. Photos by Norman H. Gough)

A man who never attended college a day in his life has given a prime parcel of commercial property in downtown Brookhaven to two Mississippi Baptist institutions to use as they see fit.

D. A. Biglane of Natchez, a prominent Baptist layman interested in Christian higher education, turned over the deed to the Inez Hotel in Brookhaven to Mississippi College and Clarke College with the income or sale of the building to be used as the presidents of the two colleges deem appropriate.

Mr. Biglane personally handed over the deed to Dr. Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College and to Dr. W. Lowrey Compere, president of Clarke College, at ceremonies in front of the building this past week.

Also present for the presentation were W. D. Lofton of Brookhaven, representing the Mississippi College Board of Trustees, and Reuben Lott (Continued on page 3)





### To Sing At Evangelistic Conference

"All God's Children," singing group from First Church, Columbia, directed by Billy Jack Green, minister of music, will appear at the Evangelistic Conference in Vicksburg. They will open the conference with "I'm Here, God Is Here—Now We Can Start" on Monday, February 4. Dr. Howard Aultman is the Columbia pastor.

### Fellowship Of Evangelists To Sponsor Open House During Evangelism Conference

The Mississippi Fellowship of Baptist Evangelists is sponsoring Open House one night during the February 4-6 Evangelism Conference in Vicksburg.

The Open House will be held Tuesday evening, February 5, at the Holiday Inn in Vicksburg. It will take place after the night session of the Evangelism Conference and is scheduled to last from 10 p.m. until midnight.

The public is invited. Everyone is welcome to come and share in the singing, fellowship, and refreshments.

"A taxpayer is a person who doesn't have to pass a civil service exam to work for the government."—Jo Bill Davis, The Three Forks (Montana) Herald.



### Mathiston Burns Note, Doubles LM Goal

On January 6, Mathiston Church had a noteburning ceremony on the payment of the last indebtedness on the pastorum. Left to right are Rev. Marvin D. Bibb, pastor; George Stidham, building contractor and deacon; Thurman Hall, chairman of Properties Committee and deacon; Mrs. Adrian Williams, Chairman of Pastorum Decor; K. E. Mullin, chairman of deacons; and J. H. Oswalt, church treasurer. On the same day, the church doubled its Little Moon Christmas Offering goal of \$500 by reaching \$1000. Mrs. Ruth Ellis is WMU director.

### Hederman Re-Elected President Of Baptist Hospital Trustees

Jackson business executive Zach Hederman has been reelected president of the Mississippi Baptist Hospital board of trustees.

Serving with him in 1974 are Dr. W. W. Causey, pastor of Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, vice-president; The Rev. James F. Yates, pastor of First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, secretary-treasurer; and J. W. Underwood, Jackson, chairman of the board's executive committee.

Hederman and hospital administrator Paul J. Pryor presented certificates of appreciation to retiring vice-president Paul Moak, Jackson, and to Marvin Collum, Jackson, for their years of service as board members.

Elected to their first three-year terms were Henry Holman, Jr., president of McCarty-Holman wholesale grocery company, Jackson, and J. M. Spain, Jr., president and owner of the Mississippi Steel and Iron Company, Jackson.

E. O. Spencer, Jackson, and The Rev. Vernon May, Louisville, were reelected to three-year terms.

Other board members include Sidney D. Davis, Mendenhall; H. B. Duckworth, Jackson; Ray Grillo, Crystal Springs; The Rev. Joel Haire, West Point; Dr. G. Swink Hicks, Natchez; W. P. McMullan, Jr., Jackson; and W. R. Newman, Jackson.

Duckworth heads the building-and-grounds committee, and Rev. May is chairman of the educational committee. Rev. Yates heads the devotional and the free-services committees. Chairman of the fundraising and finance committee is Dr. Causey. Spencer is chairman of the insurance committee. McMullan heads the investment committee, and Dr. Hicks is

### Fagan Succeeds ---

(Continued from page 1)

and Cooperative Program gifts more than doubling. In Bradenton, both budget receipts and Cooperative Program gifts increased some two and a half times in two years.

Fagan attended Stetson University, Deland, Fla., and the University of Florida, Gainesville, and holds a bachelor of arts degree from Howard College (now Samford University) Birmingham. He also holds bachelor of divinity and master of divinity degrees from Southwestern Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

## Music, Singing... Evangelism Meet

(Continued From Page 1)

Ernest Seago, organist of the host church; Edwin Sudduth, of Indianola, instrumentalist for the Watson Evangelistic Association, pianist, and Miss Kathy Richey, of the Church Music Department of the Convention Board, pianist.

Special music will be rendered during the conference by the following individuals and groups:

Sextet, First Church, Columbia, under direction of Billy Jack Green, minister of music; Ladies Trio, Calvary Church, Newton, Mrs. Alice Faye Davies, director; host church choir, under direction of Dennis Kissinger, minister of music; J. B. Betts, music evangelist, Southaven; Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Sigrest, music evangelists, Yazoo City; Mrs. Myrna Hedgepeth, vocalist, of Woodland Hills Church, Jackson; Cecil Harper, minister of music, First Church, Canton; Ernie Collins, student, M. S. U.; Mrs. Kathy McNair, music assistant, Music Department, Jackson; Mississippi Brass Ensemble, Aubrey Gaskins, Tupelo, director; Mr. and Mrs. Jon Blouin, of Calvary Church, Jackson; Mississippi Singing Churchmen, under direction of James Hayes, minister of music, First Church, Hattiesburg; Ron Rainier, minister of music, First Church, Waynesboro; Mrs. Eva Carol Hart, faculty, Mississippi College, Clinton, and Rev. James Yates, pastor First Church, Yazoo City, and Mrs. Yates.

Dr. Earl Kelly is executive secretary-treasurer of the Convention Board and will be active during the conference. Dr. John G. McCall is pastor of the host church.

Over 1000 Mississippi Baptist pastors and other local church and associational leaders from every section of the state are expected to attend, Mr. Collum said.

The conference will open with the Monday evening session at 6:45 and adjourn at the close of the Wednesday morning session.



### Religious Emphasis Week At MC Feb. 4-8

These four individuals will form the visiting team for the annual Mississippi College Religious Emphasis Week scheduled for February 4-8 at the college. From the left are George Fields, a student at Southern Seminary and former star athlete at Mississippi College; Dr. Logan Cummings, pastor of First Church, Brownwood, Texas; Mrs. Mary D. Leavell Bowman, assistant professor of history at Louisiana College; and Dick Bumpas, Baptist minister in Annapolis, Md. The theme for the week-long emphasis will be "CONTACT."



### Pleasant Hill (Calhoun) Completes Pastorium

Pleasant Hill Church in Calhoun County now has a new pastorium. The three-bedroom, two-bath home, shown above, was built on a lot adjacent to the church. Open House was held there recently. Members of the Building

Committee are Russell Funderburg, Herbert Knight, T. J. Helms, Mrs. Nancy Funderburg, and Mrs. Irma Boland. Rev. Jon Doler is the pastor.

## Changes Are Eyed For Sunday School Board

(Continued From Page 1)

other agencies, receives no allocations from the Cooperative Program, the denomination's unified budget. Its income is largely from literature and book store sales, which amounted to \$44 million in 1971-72.

The report also asks the board to work with the four SBC mission agencies "to include once again a strong missions emphasis in its materials," to revise the task statements for church organizations, to take a stronger lead in coordinating SBC programs related to the organizations of the local church and to give more attention to critical issues in the church.

The report, which deals with all SBC-related agencies, if approved by the SBC Executive Committee, will be passed on mainly to the respective groups of agency trustees for their consideration.

The Committee of Fifteen, a subcommittee of the SBC Executive Committee, recommends that a special SBC committee of seven be named by the new 1974 SBC officers to study the Executive Committee itself and report back to the Southern Baptist Convention session at Miami Beach in June, 1975.

The study group asks the Annuity Board, Dallas, to do a depth study of its various retirement plans to insure maximum flexibility for Baptist workers.

The group urges the Annuity Board to make an all-out effort to enroll all eligible Baptist workers and to secure the best possible yield from the \$366,439,081 currently held in trust for approximately 43,000 annuitants.

The Committee of Fifteen recommends that the SBC Executive Committee approve a recommendation to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Dallas June 11-13, which would permit the Southern Baptist Foundation to work more actively with Baptist state foundations to raise money from private sources of SBC causes.

The report requests the Southern Baptist Historical Commission, Nashville, to reduce unnecessary duplication between its services and the six SBC seminary libraries and to in-

crease its specialization in areas not covered by other Baptist libraries.

The Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, should exercise caution in overspecializing its programs, especially on television, according to the report.

The study committee reminds the commission that basically "it is not a public relations organization" and therefore should guard against an undue investment in "peripheral services such as public and station relations as over against the services of the purchasing and distribution of a product."

A recommendation calls for development of clear-cut procedures for marketing certain Radio and Television Commission products through the Baptist Book Stores.

The study group requests the Christian Life Commission, Nashville, and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, D. C., to work out duplication and overlapping in their respective emphases on Christian citizenship and church-state relations.

The Christian Life Commission and the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, are also asked to secure clearer understanding between them of their kindred roles in Christian social concern and Christian social ministry.

The report suggests that the Christian Life Commission work in closer cooperation with other SBC agencies to secure implementation of Christian social concerns.

The Committee of Fifteen calls on the commission to be more active in presenting commission-approved statements on moral and ethical questions for the information and approval of the Southern Baptist Convention in its annual sessions.

The eight other Baptist bodies in North America which share in the operation of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs are challenged by the report to join the SBC in more adequate financial support for the agency.

An earlier recommendation of the Committee of Fifteen that the Stewardship Commission, Nashville, be dissolved and its functions turned over to the SBC Executive Committee, was

## Gifts To World Alliance

(Continued From Page 1)

simply that her gift be used "for hungry and homeless people in other countries."

A check for \$200 came from a Michigan woman, "in memory of my beloved husband who was killed tragically four months ago. Please use the enclosed for starving people only." Tiller said the Michigan check was added to other contributions for famine relief in the Sahelian nations of Africa.

Another check for \$253 came from the pastor of a North American Baptist General Conference church in Parma, Ohio. The congregation's youth raised the money in a 15-mile "hunger walk." "It is with gratitude to them and the Lord Jesus that I forward to you the fruit of their sore feet, this check for \$253," Ward Kroguletz, the youth's pastor wrote.

### Walnut Calls Pastor

Rev. Jimmy C. Bryant has been called as pastor of Walnut Church (Tippah). Mr. Bryant served the North Corinth Church (Alcorn) as pastor for four years, three months, where he was active in associational work, serving as stewardship chairman, on the Joint Missions Committee, and secretary-treasurer of the Alcorn Baptist Pastors' Conference.

Bryant was ordained by Calvary, Booneville, and formerly served as pastor of New Liberty Church, High-



land Church, and North Corinth. He is a graduate of Northeast Mississippi College and is now a senior at Blue Mountain College.

Married to the former Esther Timbes of Booneville, he and his wife have two children, Michael 11 and James 9. He began work at Walnut on Dec. 31.

turned down by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1972.

This final report of the study committee calls on the Stewardship Commission to involve the SBC agency heads and Baptist state executive secretaries more fully in its efforts and asks the commission to revive the 50-50 division as a goal of Cooperative Program sharing between the state conventions and the SBC.

The study raises questions about the propriety of continuing the commission's field program of providing personnel to assist churches in building fund drives.

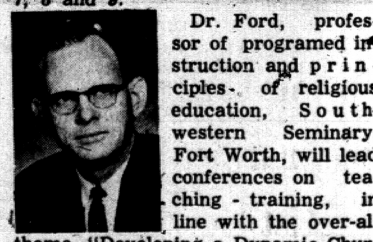
The SBC Executive Committee voted earlier to release the Committee of Fifteen report so that it might be studied carefully by all interested groups prior to action on it in Nashville, February 18-20.

### Dr. Leroy Ford To Speak At REA Meet On Coast

Dr. Leroy Ford, pictured, will be one of the featured speakers at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association at the Sheraton in Biloxi, February 7, 8 and 9.

Dr. Ford, professor of programed instruction and principles of religious education, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, will lead conferences on teaching-training, in line with the over-all theme, "Developing a Dynamic Church."

A native of Oklahoma, Dr. Ford graduated from Southwestern State College and Southwestern Seminary. Before taking his present position, he was editor, adult church training lesson courses, Church Training Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. He is the author of a number of books on teaching and training in the church.



### Mid-South Bus Outreach Clinic Held

#### At Parkway Church, Jackson

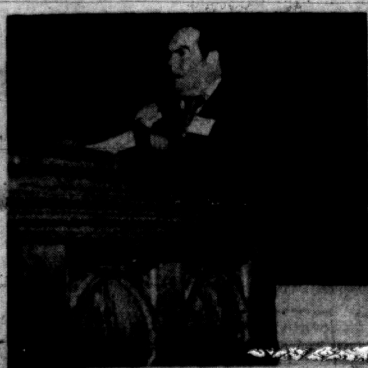
Rev. Gary Watkins, pastor of Cave City Church, Cave City, Kentucky, for the past five years, has accepted the pastorate of the Pinelake Church, Rankin County. He plans to arrive in the state on Monday, February 11.

Reared at Kosuth, Mississippi, Watkins is a graduate of Kosuth High School, William Carey College, and Southern Seminary. He is married and the father of two children.

At Cave City every area of the church work has experienced growth under his leadership. A youth program has been developed with the calling of a minister of music and youth. A bus ministry was started and also a children's church.

Mr. Watkins was chosen as Citizen of the Year in 1972 by Cave City Chamber of Commerce and is to be listed in the 1974 edition of Who's Who in Kentucky.

Dr. Landrum Leavell, pastor, First Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, and former Mississippian, was one of the guest speakers for the Mid-South Bus Outreach Clinic held at Parkway Church, Jackson, January 24-27.



Rev. Luther Price, pastor of Flag Chapel Church, Jackson, was also a featured speaker at the bus outreach clinic. The meeting was sponsored jointly by the Sunday School Departments of MBCB and BSSB, and by Hinds-Madison Association.



Dr. Bill Causey, host pastor, far right, chats with several program personalities at the bus outreach clinic. With him, left to right, are Dr. D. Lewis White from the BSSB; Rev. Bryant M. Cummings, director, Sunday School Department, MBCB; Dr. A. V. Washburn, and Miss Elsie Rives, both from the Sunday School Board, Nashville.







# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## EDITORIAL

### Southern Baptists And The World Alliance

Next Sunday Feb. 4, has been designated as Baptist World Alliance Sunday, and will be so recognized in thousands of Baptist churches around the world.

The Alliance is a voluntary association of Baptist conventions and unions in the 105 nations and 23 dependencies where Baptists are found. Latest tabulations show that there are over 32,800,000 Baptists in the world, although all are not in the Alliance.

The purpose of the Alliance is declared in its constitution as being "to show the essential oneness of Baptist people in the Lord Jesus Christ, to impart inspiration to the brotherhood, and to promote the spirit of fellowship, service and cooperation among its members."

On Baptist World Alliance Sunday many Baptist churches join in studying about their fellow Baptists around the earth, and in praying for their work and their witness.

The Baptist World Alliance has no authority over any of its constituent bodies, nor over a single church. Functions of the fellowship are listed as follows in a folder concerning its work:

1) An agency of communication between Baptist groups; 2) A forum for study and fraternal discussion of doctrines, and practices and ways of witness of Baptists; 3) A channel of cooperation for meeting human need; 4) A vigilant force for safeguarding religious liberty; 5) A sponsor of regional and world-wide gatherings for furtherance of the gospel; 6) An agent for encouraging reconciliation; and 7) A stimulus for development of programs for enlisting men, women and youth.

The Baptist World Alliance was organized in 1906, and has held world congresses almost every five years since that time. Exceptions were the periods of World War I and World War II. The last world meeting was in Tokyo, Japan, in 1970, and the next will be in Stockholm, Sweden in 1975. A World Youth Congress is scheduled for Portland, Oregon next summer.

The Southern Baptist Convention, is, of course, the largest group in the world fellowship. At least 44 countries in the world have fewer than 1,000 Baptists. Some of these groups are in lands that are predominantly Moslem, Buddhist or some other non-Christian or

atheistic culture. The World Alliance naturally means the most to Baptists in such areas, for it lets them know that they are part of a mighty world fellowship. To such people, churches and programs like we have in our convention, are little more than a dream. How great, however, must be the encouragement that must come to them just in knowing that strong Baptist fellowships are existing in others lands, and that they share in world unity with them.

Southern Baptists support the alliance, not because all Baptists everywhere are exactly alike in their programs, but because we have a common belief and a common faith. Baptists preach redemption through the Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to win lost men to that salvation experience. This in itself, is enough to bind us together as one fellowship in Jesus Christ.

On this Alliance Sunday, let us urge you to think about your Baptist brethren around the world, and to pray for God to lead and bless them. We can fulfill Paul's request of long ago that prayer be made that all of them may be able to freely proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

### Legislative Concern, A Christian Necessity

The Mississippi legislature is in its annual session, and many bills effecting people of the state will be passed or rejected within the next two or three months. Every Christian citizen needs to be concerned, for they, by positive action, can encourage the right kind of legislation, and prevent objectionable bills from being passed. Legislators are very responsive to the thinking of their constituents, so citizens all across the state need to keep themselves informed as to what is happening, and then make their desires known to those who represent them.

Christian people should be pretty generally agreed concerning some of the legislation which is being considered. These relate to getting drinking drivers off the highways, protecting and strengthening our Sunday opening laws, legalized gambling, liquor control, etc. They also usually stand together on church-state issues.

Of course, these are not the only issues which come before the legislators which are of concern to Christians, since, as citizens, they are interested in better education, the general welfare, fair taxation, etc. However, on

most of these the division is on how best to do them, rather than whether they are right or wrong, or relate to moral or church-state issues. On these latter we must, as Christian citizens, make our position clear and unmistakable.

At almost every session of the legislature special interest groups seek to destroy the "blue laws," liberalize the liquor laws, legalize gambling, approve race tracks, etc. For example, we have just been informed that there has been introduced in the senate a bill (S-2115) which liberalizes the wine laws of the state, opens the door for its sale in dry counties, and takes control from out of the hands of the Alcohol Beverage Control Board. This is evidently an example of the continued efforts of these forces to liberalize liquor laws, and weaken control.

The only protection from such moves is eternal vigilance on the part of Christian citizens. Since more of those citizens in Mississippi are Baptists than any other faith, it means eternal vigilance by the Baptists. We hope you will urge your legislators to oppose all such moves.

We commend Governor Waller in his announcement that he will veto any race track and gambling bill, should it be passed. We think that this will effectively kill the move, so that it never will even be seriously considered. We hope he will take a similar stand on all efforts to liberalize the liquor bills.

It is not always easy for a legislator to take a strong stand against some of these issues, when he is being pressured to approve them. He will be greatly strengthened in taking the right stand, when he knows that his constituents are behind him. A quiet conference on the part of many of you who read this, can help keep legislative action in the paths Christian citizens believe are best for the state.

Dr. Hensley has promised to keep us informed concerning issues which are being considered, which are of vital concern to Baptist people. These will be published in the Record. We have no intention whatever of becoming involved in the political arena, but when issues are being considered which effect our lives, our homes and our churches, we believe our readers have a right to know. They will take whatever action is needed.

#### THE BAPTIST FORUM

### Raises Question On Legislative Proposal

Dear Editor:

I read in the January 24, 1974 issue of The Baptist Record the article "Legislative Proposals Are Revealed." Under the heading "Other Church Items," I quote "One bill introduced would allow supervisors to grade and gravel private roads (up to 150 feet) including church drives."

The Baptist Record took a position on other bills mentioned in this same article, but took no position on this bill. I would assume that the writer of this article, Mr. J. Clark Hensley, Executive Director, Christian Action Commission, is familiar with the Baptist Church's position on separation of church and state. This proposed bill would allow a county supervisor to spend taxpayer's money on any church property.

For the churches to accept such work and thus to be using the general public's tax money, at the supervisor's or anyone else's discretion, would be about the worst thing the churches could do. Any benefits the churches receive from taxpayer's money would not be a "free-will" donation because all taxpayers are not church members and this would open the door to criticism of the church for using this money without their consent.

I think the churches in Mississippi are able to operate without federal, state, or county politicians giving them so-called 'help' that is not theirs to give in the first place.

Thank you,  
Don O. Simmons  
Route 2  
McComb, Miss.

#### Dr. J. Leo Green Expresses Gratitude To Mississippians

Mr. Horace L. Kerr  
Recording Secretary  
Mississippi Baptist Convention  
Dear Mr. Horace:

Words cannot express adequately our gratitude to you and to the people of the Mississippi Baptist Convention for your love and prayers in recent days. A series of setbacks and sorrows (including the illness and death of my mother) have prevented my responding to your message. But the delay is no indication of a lack of appreciation — only of the tremendous accumulation of work to be done. Again, many thanks!

My wife is doing remarkably well. She will have to wear a brace for another month and a half, but seems to be healing nicely.

Leo Green  
Southeastern Seminary  
Wake Forest, N. C. 27587

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Dr. Green, professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southeastern Seminary, was scheduled to be on the program of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, November, 1973, but was unable to come because his wife had accidentally broken her back. A telegram was sent to him on action from the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and the above is his January 7 reply to the telegram.

#### On The MORAL SCENE...

**Return to Small Towns** — Sociologists are gathering statistics which cause them to suspect a new population trend — not just the usual side-step from city bedrooms to suburban bedrooms but a retreat from city life — styles and values back to rural small towns. The figures are wobbly but interesting. The U. S. Census recently reported that in the period between March 1970 and March 1973 more people moved away from metropolitan areas (including suburbs) than moved



A Most Important Voice Today



#### A Woman's World Reaches Far Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

Occasionally it occurs to me that it must require a touch of insanity, almost, to be happy in such an insane world.

Yet I keep right on feeling surges and soarings of joy all through my being.

Then I remember that these joyful times happen because of God's promises to His children. He planned it that way — for my joy to be full. He intended for me to be able to look around and count my blessings and bless the Lord for them.

You know, it's a bit hard to bless the Lord without being moved to joy and gladness. Whenever a prayer for protection is sent up and protection is given, a heart can't help but breathe with relief, which is extremely close to joy. When lacking strength is provided in answer to prayer, a body can't help but relax with gratitude, which is also close to joy. When a stomach-knotting fear is relaxed through the moving calm of the Holy Spirit, a heart can't help it if serenity turns to joy.

Probably every one of the negative emotions of life has been a part of some day or other in our lives, yours and mine. The sad experiences of life have messed up some of our days, yours and mine. The insanity of much of the world touches us and the ones we love. The fragrance of roses does not greet us every morning.

Nevertheless, unsquelchable and uncontrollable, joy rises up like a steam in the heart and mind of a Christian when the negative emotions have been displaced. It may come through the escape valve as a song on the lips, a spring in the walk, a smile on the face, a sigh of contentment from the throat, a steadier hand, a calmer spirit, a quieter voice, a stiller heart.

All evidences of faith in promises kept.

ed into them, reversing a flow at least 100 years old.  
(Newsweek, p. 53, January 21, 1974)

**Driving Less, Drinking More** — The president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union said recently that people are turning to drink to escape the worries of the troubled national economy. "Liquor dealers are doing a d m i t that since the energy crisis began, the consumption of alcoholic beverages has greatly increased," said Mrs. Fred Toole, head of the national antialcohol group. Mrs. Toole said the need to conserve gasoline will cause people to stay home and drink more, creating broken homes and harming the mental capacity of the nation's work force. She also criticized the Nixon administration's budget for "giving no consideration to dealing with the most serious problem facing the nation today — alcohol."

(The Nashville Tennessean, January 17, 1974)

#### The Baptist Record

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Jackson, Miss. 39201

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Missionary Writes About Arthur Blessitt

# An Open Letter To Authors Of "The Story Of The Jesus People"



Arthur Blessitt visits the University of Ibadan in Nigeria.

(NOTE: The following is a letter from Mary Frank Kirkpatrick to the authors of the book, *The Story of the Jesus People*, concerning the ministry of Arthur Blessitt. Miss Kirkpatrick is a Mississippi missionary to Nigeria. Evangelist Arthur Blessitt, also a Mississippian, has walked across the United States and Europe and has begun his walk across Africa, carrying a 90-pound cross, and witnessing for Christ along the way. Miss Kirkpatrick's letter and the accompanying pictures tell of Mr. Blessitt's ministry in Ibadan, Nigeria. Currently Mr. Blessitt is in the States, for several weeks of speaking engagements. He spoke at Calvary Church, Jackson, last Thursday evening. His plans are to return to Africa and resume the trek across that continent.)

Mr. R. M. Enroth, E. E. Ericson, C. B. Peters, Authors  
*The Story of the Jesus People*  
Westmonth College  
Santa Barbara, California  
U.S.A.

Dear Sirs:  
Because I work with students and am interested in knowing more about anything they are involved in, and because my main purpose in life is to share the Truth about Jesus Christ, I was

interested in your book, *THE STORY OF THE JESUS PEOPLE*, which claims to be a factual survey. I have followed this movement from a distance since I have been living outside the United States for the last 18 years. But because I have recently been so closely associated with one of the characters of your book I could not help but differ very strongly with your statement on page 72.

You said, concerning Arthur Blessitt, "The New York ministry has never really gotten off the ground. Rather than facing failure, Blessitt has opted for a cross-dragging ministry in which there is neither success nor failure, just publicity." Now I suppose success or failure is measured by different people in different ways, but when a person's purpose in life is to present Jesus Christ to the individual that he may know the Truth and respond to the Spirit of God, and he does this, and the individual responds and experiences New Life in Christ, I would say this is success.

When he was in the city I praise God that people heard the message of Jesus through him on the radio and TV and through the newspapers, but that day I could not help but think of the weeks and months he had spent, and would spend with blistered feet and aching back, but with a big smile and love overflowing as he went from village to village where there is no daily newspaper, much less a TV.

I walked through this city of Ibadan with him as he carried the cross. I watched the expressions on the faces of people as their attention was called to what Jesus Christ's death on the cross could mean to them. I saw them respond and move away praising the Lord. Isn't that success?

I followed the throngs of university students with him through their campuses and later went back alone to witness

their boldness in sharing the Truth with each other. To me that is success.

After Rev. Blessitt had preached at seven different spots throughout the city, including the market place, the palm wine sellers' station, the front steps of the largest department store, and then at last in the Baptist Student Centre, we were sitting in my office for a moment of rest when one young man came in and sat down by me.

"Please ma, I am a Moslem, I have a never been interested in Christianity, but I have seen God in this man, and I want to know more." He heard more which resulted in his praying to receive Jesus Christ into his heart. Success? What is success? One illiterate woman so thrilled with Jesus was asked, "Why do you think that man's preaching is such a success?" The reply after deep thought: "Well, I reckon it is because God told him to do something and he is doing it." He's just walking day after day, carrying a ninety-pound cross, and telling people along the way that Jesus Christ loves them and died on a cross to take their guilt, and to give them power over sin in their daily living.

Because my own ministry has received greater power after contact with him I just felt I must share this with you.

Sincerely yours,  
Mary Frank Kirkpatrick, Dtr.  
Baptist Student Work  
Nigerian Baptist Convention  
PMB 5113  
Ibadan, Nigeria



Arthur Blessitt speaks on the University of Ibadan campus. With him is Mary Frank Kirkpatrick, missionary, Baptist student director at the university. Both Mr. Blessitt and Miss Kirkpatrick are Mississippians.



Arthur Blessitt carries the cross on the streets in Ogbomoso, Nigeria.

## Sunday School Lesson: International

# Jesus Promises Coming Of The Counselor

John 15:18 to 16:15  
By Clifton J. Allen

The Holy Spirit is called the Comforter, but perhaps he is better understood as the Counselor or the Helper. He is also called the Spirit of truth, which is meaningful to the highest degree. The setting of the lesson should be kept in mind. The time is the night before the crucifixion. Jesus had told the disciples of his going away, but he had assured them that he would return. The promise of his return was more than the assurance of his resurrection; it pointed to the coming of the Spirit. Thus Jesus joined together the promise of his own abiding presence and the promise that the Holy Spirit would come to take his place. Jesus was declaring that he would be with his followers forever. He would be present in the life of the world — through the presence of his Spirit.

IN JESUS' PLACE (vv. 4c-7)

The depression of the disciples was

natural. Jesus had warned them that they could expect hate, rejection, and persecution; he had warned them as to the peril of death. Now he said that he was going to him who sent him, that is, to the Father. The hearts of the disciples were filled with sorrow. Jesus sought to relieve their anxiety and feeling of uncertainty by assuring them that he would send the Comforter or Counselor. The promised Comforter would be the same in nature,

## Professor, Student Win Hymn Arranging Awards

SHAWNEE, Okla. (BP)—A college professor from Abilene, Tex., and a student from Birmingham, Ala., have been named winners in the annual R. B. McKinney Hymn Arranging Contest.

James D. Cram, head of the choral department at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, won the \$150 first prize in the professional writers' category, and Gregory S. Sewell, a student at Samford University, Birmingham, received the \$75 place award in the student competition.

Announcement of the winners was made here by Warren M. Angell, president of the R. B. McKinney Foundation, located on the Oklahoma Baptist University campus.

the help of Jesus.

Too many parents sacrifice their children on the world altar because of their selfish pride. We all face such a decision. We all have to pay a price of sacrifice to get what we need. The real problem is that so few parents see that Jesus Christ is the one their children need. The unspoken fact is that after the parent has provided shelter, food, clothes and acceptance, there is another need. It is time for us to rethink some of our values for the sake of our families.

A sick child can cause us to feel desperate. Novelist James L. Johnson tells how he and his eight-year-old son were watching a TV documentary about people living in tin shacks in Saigon, dying of meningitis because the available penicillin had been siphoned into the black market. Turning to his father with tears in his eyes, the eight-year-old asked, "Daddy, can't God do anything?"

This thought awakes a response that causes us to fall upon our knees in prayer begging for help. Thank God, because when we forget ourselves, our pride, our dignity, prayer works.

A DEATH SITUATION  
Jairus' household was suspiciously quick to tell him not to trouble Jesus any more. It sounds almost as if they were glad not to call upon his help. Death sounds so final and hopeless to most people. Death may seem to be an impenetrable wall, but Jesus has put a door in the wall.

Jewish mourning customs were designed to stress the desolation and the final separation of death. This is what Jesus found when he arrived at the death scene. The mourners were screaming passionate appeals to the dead. There might have been those professional mourners that made a "good show," but never were sincere. Jesus made the announcement,

the same in love, and the same in power as Jesus himself. This is clearly the meaning of Jesus' words, spoken earlier, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you" (John 14:18). Jesus' promise of the Comforter, therefore, means that all who believe in Christ unto salvation are indwelt by the Spirit and have available through the Spirit the resources of divine grace and the strength and blessing of the Savior's presence forever.

## THE SPIRIT OF CONVICTION (vv. 8-11)

The function of the Spirit here set forth has to do with his activity in the unregenerate world or his work in the hearts of unbelievers. He reproves the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. The word reprove means to show, to convict or indict, or to convince. The Holy Spirit convicts a person of sin. That is, he makes the unbeliever aware of his sinful nature, his guilt, his acts of sin, and his need for salvation. The reality, gravity and deadly nature of sin will not be felt apart from the indictment and conviction by the Spirit. He

"The girl has not died — she is sleeping." By these words Jesus was apparently signifying to Jairus that he had not lost his daughter. "He would hear the ring of her laughter, and again know the warmth of her affection." Her death was no more permanent than a sleep.

These words were so shocking that the mourners' whole demeanor changed. The mourners began to ridicule and to deride Jesus for his statement. Such laughing was out of place in the house where death was present. The parents were too grief-stricken for such an action. The scene is one of a hopeless case, the bitter end of their hopes and dreams for their child. Unbelievers can only wall, with no hope. But faith believes and waits.

A DREAM COME TRUE  
Having cast the group of mourners out of the house, Jesus took the parents and three disciples into the room where the little girl lay still in death. There was no question but that she had died physically.

Jesus who touched the leper now touched the body. He took the hand of the little girl into his hand. His was the hand of authority and life. Then in gentle kindness He said, "Little girl, to you I say, 'Be arising!'" He ordered death to release her.

These words are characteristic of the hope Jesus had. These words are characteristic of the perfect confidence and trust in God.

The parents saw their dream come true. The little girl arose and walked around. This was the first person to come back from death in the New Testament. This was an announcement that death could be conquered. These parents knew Jesus was the resurrection.

Mark gives assurance that death has not turned out the light. Sleep is used many times to describe death. Sleep is something from which we awake to live more strongly. Death is not the finality, it seems, but a sleep.

convicts of righteousness or impresses on the unbeliever an awareness of his need of the righteousness of God. The Spirit also convicts of judgment, impressing on the unbeliever the fearful reality of God's judgment of evil and the fact of being under the condemnation of God because of sin. The essence of sin and the root of sin is not to believe in Jesus the one sent of God to be the Savior from sin. Righteousness is made possible as a free gift of God because of Christ's death and return to the Father. Judgment has already taken place through the death of Christ for the sins of the world. The Holy Spirit does his convicting work, not independently of the gospel, but by using the witness of Christians and the truth of the gospel and other means appropriate to this purpose to make unbelievers aware of their spiritual need and to show the way of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. What a thrilling thought, we have inward resources from the Spirit to get the most out of life, to make life most worthwhile, and to receive fullness of joy from this experience.

## THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH (vv. 12-15)

There was much of truth that Jesus himself wanted to reveal to the disciples, but they were not prepared at that time to receive it. He promised that the Holy Spirit would guide them into all the truth that would be essential to their responsibility. All the truth that would enable them to have full understanding of the saving work of Christ and of the witness they were to give to the world. The identification of the Spirit as the Spirit of truth emphasizes the centrality of truth in the nature of God. The Holy Spirit is the great interpreter of the truth which was revealed in Christ. The word of the Spirit expresses the authority of Christ and is for the purpose of implementing the saving work of Christ. The activity of the Spirit in these verses centers on his activity in the lives of believers. He is the medium through which the goodness of Christ, which is the goodness of God, is experienced in the life of the believer, and all this is with a view to the oneness of the believer with the oneness of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## Susie Fairchild And Twinkle Witness In Crusade In India

Susie Fairchild, a gospel ventriloquist from Mogelle, and her friend, Twinkle, will be witnessing in India for the next eight or nine weeks.

Susie, a junior and music major at MSCW, left Christmas Eve to go to South India with her father, Rev. Elven Fairchild.

Nine crusades were set up in different areas of South India. Susie and her father are speaking in colleges and schools during each day and holding services every evening. The last report received from them stated that they had been speaking to nightly crowds of 10,000, and that hundreds are receiving Christ nightly. So far, over 3,000 professions of faith have been recorded and over 1500 of those have been enrolled in Bible study.

This is Susie's first trip to India, but her father's third within a year. He went twice with Dr. E. J. Daniels and Ann Marie, Susie's sister, who is also a gospel ventriloquist. But this time it was Susie, Twinkle, and Elven.

Mrs. Elven Fairchild (Molly) writes, "They covet your prayers. India's time is twelve hours ahead of ours. As we are eating breakfast, they are in evening services, so when you ask God to bless your breakfast, would you please remember to pray for the Fairchilds in India?"

"You may also remember the ones who stayed home. There is Ann Marie, who is in crusades every week somewhere in the U.S. and there is the other sister, Ruth, 13, who is also a gospel ventriloquist and being used." Mrs. Fairchild is a ventriloquist, too. She does school assembly programs during the week



Susie Fairchild and Twinkle

and speaks in churches on weekends. This way she "stays busy, pays the bills, and tries not to get lonesome."

Susie was a summer missionary to Mars, Pennsylvania, last summer, sponsored by the Home Mission Board.

Mrs. Fairchild says that this was the first Christmas their family had not been together. "I felt like I had really given Jesus a birthday present as I sent them all off on Christmas Eve!" Even though it rained all day Christmas, she refused to stay home and be lonesome, so she took her ventriloquist's doll, Sunny, to the hospital and nursing homes and told the Christmas story and sang Christmas carols. She declares, "It was the greatest Christmas I ever had."



Miss Bertha Smith, Retired Missionary, Autographs New Book

SAN ANTONIO — Bertha Smith, former missionary to China and author of "Go Home and Tell," autographs copies of her latest book from Broadman Press, "How the Spirit Filled My Life." The book recounts how the Holy Spirit completed his work in her life, the change in her viewpoint thereafter, how this affected her work in the kingdom of God and how she sees the Spirit working in others today. "How the Spirit Filled My Life" may be purchased at Baptist and general book stores for \$3.95. See review on page 4.

## Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

# Not Dead But Sleeping

Mark 5:21-43  
By Bill Duncan

Recently I stood by the casket of one of our members who had died in her sleep. I heard her family say, "She looks just like she is asleep." This dear person of 87 years had died peacefully. The family was thankful for her many wonderful years.

But how different it is when a child is facing death. What can you say?

One of my favorite stories told by Catherine Marshall describes a conversation with a Mrs. MacDonald who had lost a teenage son, Kenneth, to diabetes, just months before insulin was discovered. This comes from the book, *Beyond Our Selves*.

Mrs. MacDonald told of the day when for the first time Kenneth suspected he was going to die. "Mother, what is it like to die?" he had asked. "Mother, does it hurt?"

The distraught mother told her she almost ran to the kitchen where, leaning against a cabinet her knuckles pressed hard against the cold smooth surface, she prayed, "God, what can I tell him?"

morning — to your surprise — you would wake and find yourself in your own bed."

Mr. MacDonald went on to explain to Kenneth that he would be in his own room because his father, who loved him, came with strong arms and carried him away.

Then she concluded, "So Kenneth, death is like that. We just wake up some morning to find ourselves in another room. We shall be there, because God loves us even more than our human fathers and takes care of us just as tenderly."

## A DESPAIRING FATHER

The opening scene of the story of Jesus' helping Jairus and his family finds a man who is desperate, and is on his knees begging for help. The daughter of Jairus was lying at death's door. Jairus was a ruler of the synagogue and his daughter was 12 years of age.

To us Jesus is the natural person to help us, but not to be a Jew such as Jairus. He knew how the religious leaders thought about Jesus. What was more important, being a ruler of the synagogue or being a father?

Most of the friends and leaders of Jairus were prejudiced against Jesus because he was an outsider, unorthodox, and considered a dangerous heretic. A prejudiced mind shuts out a man from any blessing.

As a ruler of the synagogue Jairus had pride. For him to fall before Jesus in humiliation and ask for help was a great decision. But the first step of the Christian life is to realize that we cannot be anything other than indebted to God. Jairus forgot his dignity to seek a blessing. This man forgot everything except that he wanted



# Mission Gifts

Jan. 1, 1973-Dec. 31, 1973

# Mission Gifts Of Mississippi Baptist Churches Thru Convention Board

**Jan. 1, 1973-Dec. 31, 1973**

[illegible]



# BIBLES TO ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN BSU, NSM GOAL

NASHVILLE (BP) — Baptist Student Unions (BSU) and National Student Ministries (NSM) of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board have launched a plan to give every international student in United States colleges, schools and universities a copy of the Bible or New Testament in his or her native language.

The Baptist Student Union Bible distribution plan, sponsored by NSM, hopes to place Bibles in the hands of an estimated 180,000 international students, according to Benton Williams, NSM's consultant in international student work.

Ten of the versions are diglot New Testaments. That is, English and the native language are on facing pages throughout the translation. Diglot New Testaments are printed in Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Dutch, German, Greek, Hebrew, Korean, Portuguese and Hindi (Indian). Although, 37 different translations will be available. In addition to the diglot New Testaments, the other 27 will be translations of the entire Bible.

BSU groups on university and college campuses will purchase the Bibles with money raised by BSU international committees and with the help of local Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood and other church organizations, Williams said.

The American Bible Society is ordering the Bibles from overseas to make

# Pontotoc To Renovate

First Church, Pontotoc, Dr. W. Levon Moore, pastor, has voted to employ an architect to determine the cost - estimate of a complete renovation of the church auditorium. Chairman of the Renovation Study Committee is Hoyle H. Hester.

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Devotional

# Fools For Christ

I Corinthians 4:10  
By Ken Pickens, Tupelo

Is the Christian a fool? By the world's standards he may be accused of acting in a foolish way because of his faith—for the Christian finds that his social and vocational activities cannot be separated from the spiritual. He also discovers that his social as well as his spiritual needs are met in the fellowship of believers. This fellowship is so important to the Christian that one is willing to choose this way above any other way.

An avid outdoorsman suddenly chooses Bible study and public worship above a sport that had previously been first in his life. Or one in a day of wild inflation determines that a tenth of his income will be designated as holy and will be used to accomplish spiritual goals in the world. A Christian may take a vacation to attend the evangelistic efforts in the church or he may attend a training session to improve his spiritual efficiency in sharing Christ with others.

A politician or an astronaut decides to leave a profession in which each has achieved a high degree of popularity and economic security to begin sharing a message of God's love for the world. People in every walk of life have completely reversed their life styles because of an experience with Jesus Christ. These people, like Paul, and other New Testament characters make decisions based upon the inner awareness of God's voice rather than because of the advice or pressure of people.

The result is not a Social outcast, although the new Christian may find that some will turn away from him because of his decision. Neither is it the type of action which alienates others nor attempts to make others into a carbon copy of self. Instead it is a change in attitude and action that produces a quality of life that others desire.

One may seem to be a fool, but eventually like Paul the Christian influence well has its impact on the lives of others, enabling Christ to change their lives as Are you willing to be this kind of fool for Jesus?

## Rev. Vance Dyess Moves To Trinity

Rev. Vance H. Dyess has accepted the pastorate of Trinity Church, Pearl. Born in Prentiss (Jefferson Davis County), Mr. Dyess is married to the former Shirley Mae Fridge of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. They have four children, David, Belinda, both married, Van and Luann. One grandchild, Todd, is the son of David.

Mr. Dyess attended Clarke College and Mississippi College. While in college he pastored Bethel and Springfield in Leake County, and New Bethel, Neshoba County. His other pastorates have been Bethel, Copiah; Star, Sunshine and Mountain Creek, Rankin County.

He is presently serving on the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board from the Rankin Baptist Association. Mr. Dyess has been in full time

## Revival Dates

Inka Church: February 7, 8, 10; services at 7 p.m.; Rick Ingle, evangelist; Jerry Swimmer, singer; Rev. Charles Dampeer, pastor.

pastoral work for over fourteen years, and director of the Rankin County Library System for the past eight years.

During his two and one-half years at Mountain Creek over 50 additions were added to the church. The pastorate was centrally air-conditioned, and a pastor's study built. A budget was adopted for the first time in 1972-73 and increased from \$11,345 to \$16,785 for 1973-74. A choir was organized by Mrs. Dyess who is also office secretary for the Stewardship Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Trinity Church was organized in March of 1972. An educational building is complete and is being used for the sanctuary at present with plans to begin a separate sanctuary in late 1974 or early 1975. The church is located in Cunningham Heights, Pearl.

## Names In The News

Ernest Myers, Jr. was recently ordained to the gospel ministry by First Church, Nashville, Tennessee at the request of Terry Church.



Mr. Myers is currently serving as associate pastor at Terry. (Rev. Glen Puckett is pastor.) The ordination sermon was preached by Mr. Myers' grandfather, Dr. Charles L. McKay, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Scottsdale, Arizona. The ordination charge was given by Dr. H. Franklin Paschall, pastor of First Church, Nashville. Mr. Myers is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Ernest E. Myers of Nashville, Tenn., and is a senior at Mississippi College.

Dr. M. Douglas Clark, pastor of Lowrey Memorial Church, Blue Mountain, recently taught the adults in January Bible Study at First Church, Pontotoc. Dr. W. Levon Moore, pastor.

Tom Lester of Laurel, Mississippi, and Hollywood, California, better known as "Eb" of the "Green Acres" TV show was at First Church, Pontotoc, for two services on the weekend of January 26-27. He spoke at a Youth Rally on Saturday night, and at the Sunday morning service on January 27, as the church observed Baptist Men's Day. Billy Glover, layman from Tupelo spoke Sunday night. Gay Hugh Day is Brotherhood director and Dr. W. Levon Moore is pastor.

Rev. Robert Frank Wilson, Jr. joined the staff of Parkway Church, Jackson, January 20, as assistant pastor.



Mr. Wilson is a native of Memphis, and Mrs. Wilson of Meridian. They have one daughter, Leigh Ann. They are both graduates of Mississippi College, and he is also a graduate of New Orleans Seminary. Before going to Parkway, Mr. Wilson had served Highland, Laurel, and Arlington Church near Brookhaven.

Bill Webber has recently been called to North McComb Church as music and youth director. He is a graduate of West Point High

School and the University of Southern Mississippi. Since joining the staff of North McComb, he has enrolled as a student in New Orleans Seminary, to work toward the Master of Church Music degree. Mrs. Webber, native Amite Countian, graduated from Liberty High School. She attended University of Southern Mississippi with a major in piano. She is presently teaching piano privately in McComb. The Webbers moved from Memphis to McComb. They reside at 507 James Street. The church held a reception for them on January 27.

Mr. and Mrs. Elton F. Gray, missionary associates to Okinawa, may be addressed at Box 81 Kozu City, Okinawa 904, Japan. She is the former Dottie Eavenson of Marks, Miss.

Cecil Rimes, pictured, was licensed to the gospel ministry recently, by the Progress Church, Pike County, Rev. Dennis Allen, pastor. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Tanet Rimes of Magnolia, he is a sophomore at Southwest Jun-



ior College.

Jackie Edwards, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Edwards of Decatur, has assumed responsibilities for the youth and children's choir at Clarke-Venable Church, Decatur. Miss Edwards has earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education at the University of Southern Mississippi and has had graduate study in the School of Church Music at Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Dr. B. F. Smith of Hattiesburg, recently retired from William Carey College, will be in a revival with Parkway Church, Fort Pierce, Florida February 4-11. Besides the evening sermons there will be a daily radio program and three hours daily given to counseling by appointment. Dr. James C. Wright is pastor of the 800 member congregation, and Joe Justin Walters, formerly of Main Street, Hattiesburg is minister of music.

## Benndale Receives Building Fund Check

First Church, Benndale, George County, has received a check for \$1,000 from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary - treasurer. The check is to aid them with their new building.

Ground was broken for a new church building at Benndale on February 17, 1973. The structure is now valued at \$19,000. Indebtedness is none. Men of Gulfport Heights Church



The new auditorium at First Church, Benndale, George County, is being built by its members and by the members of Gulfport Heights and Shady Grove.

and their pastor, Rev. Pat McNair; Rev. N. H. Smith of Shady Grove; and the men, women, and young people of Benndale Church have done the work. Pastor George Harper reports that the only money spent for labor so far has been \$120 for the concrete floor.

The young people of Benndale have collected and sold almost \$200 worth of soft drink bottles to help pay for the bathrooms and baptistry.

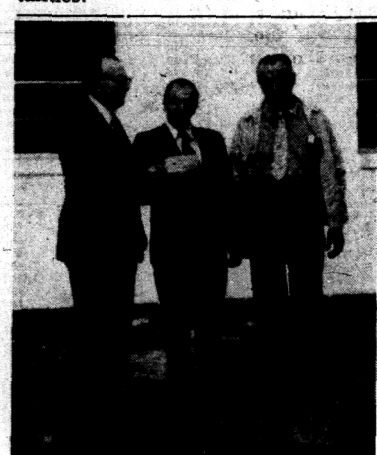
First Church, Benndale was constituted January, 1973. It was founded as a mission thirteen or fourteen years ago by Rev. N. H. Smith of Shady Grove Church, George County. Shady Grove sponsored Benndale during the years it was mission and periodically gave financial assistance, as well as giving them a bus last year.

Benndale's first building, now to be used for Sunday school classrooms, was built singlehandedly by Rev. N. H. Smith.

Mr. Harper has been pastor at Benndale a little more than a year, as the first full-time pastor that they have had living on the field. During the past year there were 30 additions for baptism and 25 by letter, making a total of 75 members at present.

The church has voted to give 10 percent to missions - 4% to the Cooperative Program, 3% to the county missionary, and 3% to other mission purposes.

Drivers under 25 years of age hold 18.7% of the driver licenses in the country, according to The Travelers Insurance Companies, but were involved in 29.5% of 1972's highway fatalities.



Left to right are Therman Bryant, associate, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Rev. George Harper, pastor, First, Benndale; and Rev. N. H. Smith, Shady Grove. Mr. Bryant is presenting to First, Benndale a check for \$1,000, from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The money is for use in church building aid.

## REVIVAL RESULTS

Hopewell Church, Davidson, N. C.: January 6-11; Evangelists, Tommy and Diane Winders of Tupelo; 27 decisions; 15 professions of faith.

### Music Revival

Pine Level Church (Greene): music revival; Jan. 18, 19, and 20; Rev. Jim Hilderbrand, Birmingham, Alabama, music evangelist; Carol Ball, Leakeville, accompanist; services began Friday night, with a sermon in song; Saturday featured retreats; services climaxed by a fellowship dinner and "sing-spiration" hour Sunday afternoon; many decisions; several answering call to music ministry; (Saturday's retreats were devoted to learning new music for worship and the part music plays in the Christian life. Those attending the retreats were representatives from Unity Church, Leakeville First, Mt. Pisgah, Pine Level, Leakeville Methodist, and Leakeville Presbyterian. A total of 64 shared Christ through song on Saturday); Rev. Rayford Moore, pastor.

Britain and France declared war on Germany on Sept. 3, 1939. Belgium was neutral.

## MC Expects 400 English Teachers To Attend Annual Conference Feb. 2

Approximately 400 English teachers from all over Mississippi will gather at Mississippi College on Saturday, Feb. 2, for the annual conference of the English Commission of Mississippi Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Jimmy Voyles, assistant professor of English at Mississippi College and coordinator for the event, said that this year's confab will also include high school teachers as well as those from the junior college and college levels.

Reporting on the work of high school English departments will be Ms. Juanita Blakey, Tupelo High School; Ms. Cecilia Aarons, Vicksburg High School; Elba Patterson, Jackson Public Schools; and Winifred Farrar, Meridian Public Schools.

College professors taking part on the program include Dr. Peggy Preshaw, University of Southern Mississippi; Cephus Smith, Jackson State College; Dr. Sarah Rouse, Mississippi College; Mrs. Jim E. Haggis, Hinds Junior College; Dr. Gordon Weaver,

University of Southern Mississippi; Dr. Clyde Williams, Mississippi State University; Dr. Andrew Badger, Delta State College; and Dr. Marice Brown, University of Southern Mississippi.

Registration for the one-day conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. in Self Hall. Dr. George Boyd of Millsaps College is chairman of the Commission this year, while Ould Vickers of East Central Junior College is chairman of the program committee.

## The Truth Singers To Return To McComb

The Truth Singers will have a return performance at First Church, McComb, on February 8 at 7:30 p.m.

This youth group from Alabama sang to an overflowing crowd at McComb last year and many decisions for Christ were made. Church groups and individuals in the area are encouraged and invited to attend.



Mississippi College will host the annual Conference of the English Commission of Mississippi Colleges and Universities on Saturday, Feb. 2. Dr. Jimmy Voyles (seated), assistant professor of English at Mississippi College, is serving as local coordinator. He goes over the day's activities with fellow workers, from left, Mrs. Dick Harding, graduate assistant; Dr. Sarah Rouse, chairman of the Division of Humanities and professor of English; and Mrs. Virginia Quarles, instructor in English. (M. C. Photo by Bill Strange).

## Off The Record

**Respiratory Jam Session**  
A bunch of germs were hitting it up in a bronchial saloon. Two bugs on the edge of the larynx were jacking a hay-feverish tune. While back on the teeth in a solo game. Sat dangerous Dan Kerchoo. And watching his pulse. Was his queen of the waltz. The wench that is known as Flu.

**Problem Solver**  
They were a part of a group on a sleigh ride and it was cold. She was romantic, "Nobody loves me," she said, "and my hands are so cold!" "God loves you," said the boy "and you can sit on your hands."

A politician said to Horace Greeley one day, "I am a self-made man." "That, Sir," replied Greeley, "relieves the Almighty of a terrible responsibility."

Mrs. Gordon was sending her husband to the store to get a head of cabbage. "What size head?" Mr. Gordon asked. "Oh, about the size of your head," he was told. Later a friend reported, "I think you should know, Mrs. Gordon, that your husband is acting strangely. I saw him at the store today trying his hat on one head of cabbage after another."

laughed. Fully aware of the seriousness of his illness, Jeff believed, too, in the power of prayer. When Rev. Carey Cox, Mississippi Baptist Foundation executive secretary, was visiting him, he asked, "Brother Cox, would you say a little prayer for me?" Jeff's favorite verse is Psalm 23:1, "The Lord is my shepherd." He says it often, and adds, "He made me well." Mr. and Mrs. Broome say that they learned as never before to appreciate the Baptist Hospital and its dedicated staff. And through the illness of their child they learned as never before to rely on God. They ask for continued prayer for Jeff as he improves day by day.

## Family Learns Through Child's Illness Miraculous Power Of Prayer

By Anne McWilliams  
When six-year-old Jeffrey Broome of Pearl became ill on August 28, 1973 he was taken to Baptist Hospital in Jackson. The doctors said he had viral meningitis encephalitis.

Before he left the hospital three months later on November 28, he had undergone brain surgery three times, and endured a tracheotomy.

Many times it appeared that he would not live to celebrate his seventh birthday on December 18. But now he is at home at 203 Llonet Road, Jackson (Pearl) and is slowly improving. He goes to therapy once a week, and is learning to walk again. In fact, he had to start from scratch and learn to do almost everything over again. Last year he was in first grade and was on course to have been in second grade this year if he had not been in the hospital. Though he had to re-learn the alphabet, he is already beginning to read and write again. He weighs 53 now, but is gradually gaining, as he eats a lot. He goes to several doctors for a monthly check-up. Though tracheotomies have been

known to ruin children's voices, his voice is normal.

Jeff is the son of James and Peggy Broome, members of First Church, Pearl. His father, a deacon, is employed with Reynolds Engineering. (Mr. Broome was in the hospital for a month, with back problems, at the same time Jeff was there.) His mother, the former Peggy Hines, has worked in the Baptist Building for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for a total of 13 years. His brother, Jimmy, is 15.

His major doctors were Dr. Walter Ngell, neurosurgeon, and Dr. Jim Hendrix, pediatrician. Both showed unusual concern for Jeff, and went more than the second mile in providing professional skill.

Mr. and Mrs. Broome fully believe that answered prayer is the reason Jeff is at home with them today. Many people offered concerned prayer for the boy, including family, friends, neighbors, fellow church members, and fellow workers of both parents. At least one special prayer meeting was held in the Baptist Building, as well as the many times he was remembered at chapel time, and in individuals' prayers.

Mrs. Broome was in the hospital, to help take care of her small son, almost

constantly, day and night, for three months. All this time Jeff was gravely, critically ill. Often they despaired for his life or wondered what would be the after-effects of the disease. Mrs. Broome testifies, "I learned how to pray. I had thought all my life that I knew how to pray, but I found that I had never before known the true meaning of prayer. I learned what it means to pray on my knees - there is a difference! I learned to pray that the Lord's will be done, and I came to the point that I was ready to accept his will, whatever it was. I am so grateful for his goodness to me!"

Others who stayed long hours in the intensive care waiting room with her have spoken of the inspiration they gained from her quiet assurance and deep faith in God.

She continued, "I knew true communion with God, and knew he was right there with me in that hospital room. I kept repeating II Corinthians 12:9 over and over, 'I guess a thousand times a day. His grace is sufficient for me; for my strength is made perfect in weakness.' Sometimes I would think I could possibly go on. I would find a place alone for a few minutes and ask the Lord to give me strength. Then I'd go back and

start doing the things I knew I had to do. Psalm 46:1 was a comfort, too - 'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.'"

One night she kept hearing one phrase in her mind again and again, "It is no secret what God can do!" Her spirits lifted and she felt a sense of joyous release and peace. The night proved to be a turning point. Next day there was a complete change for the better in Jeff's condition.

During the many weeks in the hospital the little boy suffered a great deal, from shots and tests and operations and all the painful things that go along with them. (Watching his suffering was one thing that caused his mother so much agony.) One lab technician said, "He's stood things I just don't believe I could have endured!" All his nurses and other attendants learned to love him and admire his courage. Needles had been stuck into his hands and arms so many times that there were no more places to stick - so once they even resorted to sticking a needle in his neck. On one occasion when a doctor was preparing to deaden his arm for still another test, he had laid his needle down halfway across the room. Jeff half-sat up in bed and said, "I smell a shot!" That doctor really

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